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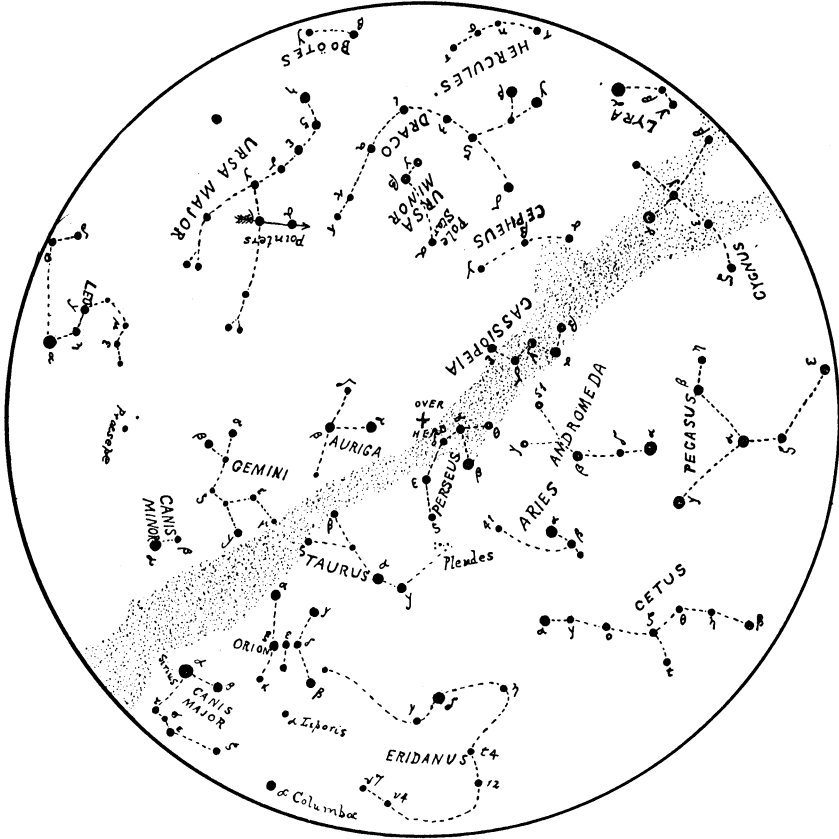
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MAP I.



The sky on November 22, at 12 o'clock.

December 6, at 11 o'clock.

December 21, at 10 o'clock.

January 5, at 9 o'clock.

January 20, at 8 o'clock.

## A SERIES OF SIX STAR MAPS.

The star maps in this series have been drawn, using those in PROCTOR'S "*Half Hours with the Stars*" as a basis. The scale has been somewhat reduced, in order to accommodate a map to a page of the Society's *Publications*.

The making of these maps was originally undertaken by Professor D. A. LEHMAN, at Professor HOLDEN'S suggestion. A portion of them remained unfinished at the time of Professor LEHMAN'S departure from the Lick Observatory, in July, 1897, and these I have completed.

The maps were originally adapted to a north latitude of about  $52^{\circ}$ , so that, for the latitudes of the United States, they will be somewhat in error, but not so much, however, as to cause serious inconvenience. Under each map will be found the date and time at which the sky will be as represented in the accompanying map; *e. g.* Map No. 1 shows the sky as it appears on November 22d at midnight, December 5th at 11 o'clock, December 21st at 10 o'clock, January 5th at 9 o'clock, and January 20th at 8 o'clock. It is presumed that the maps will be used for observations principally between the hours of 8 o'clock in the evening and midnight. It should be borne in mind, however, that the same map represents the aspect of the constellations on other dates than those given, but at a *different hour* of the night. Map No. 1, which we have been considering, shows the sky's aspect on October 23d at 2 A. M., September 23d at 4 A. M., and also on February 20th at 6 P. M., as well as on the dates and at the hours given in the map. The same is true of all the other maps in the series. For any date *between* those given, the map will represent the sky at a time *between* the hours given; for instance, on November 26th, Map No. 1 will represent the sky at 11:45 o'clock, on November 30th at 11:30 o'clock, and on December 2d at 11:15 o'clock.

If the maps are held with the center exactly overhead and the *top* pointing to the north, the lower part of the map will be south, the right-hand portion will be to the west, and the left-hand to the east, the circle bounding the map representing the horizon. It will be seen from this that each map shows the *whole* of the sky visible at these times.

It will be noted that a number of the constellations about the pole never set, but are always visible in some part of the northern

sky. As the maps are the projections of a curved surface upon a plane, there is, of course, considerable distortion, but this will hardly be confusing.

The names of the *constellations* are inserted in capitals to distinguish them, while the names of *stars* and other data are in small letters.

The planets are continually changing their places, and hence are not inserted on the maps which represent the *stars* for one year as well as another.

From the *Planetary Notes* it can readily be told if the brighter planets — *Venus*, *Jupiter*, and *Mars* (when at his brightest) — are visible, and in what part of the sky. *Saturn* can almost always be told by its steady yellowish light. If it is desired to locate a planet accurately, a star map giving circles of Right Ascension and parallels of Declination should be used, and the place of the planet ascertained from the tables accompanying the *Planetary Notes* in these *Publications* or from any of the nautical almanacs. It may assist in identifying a planet, to remember that the planets do not depart widely, north or south, from the Sun's path — the ecliptic.

C. D. PERRINE.

MT. HAMILTON, January 7, 1898.

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## PLANETARY PHENOMENA FOR MARCH AND APRIL, 1898.

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BY PROFESSOR MALCOLM MCNEILL.

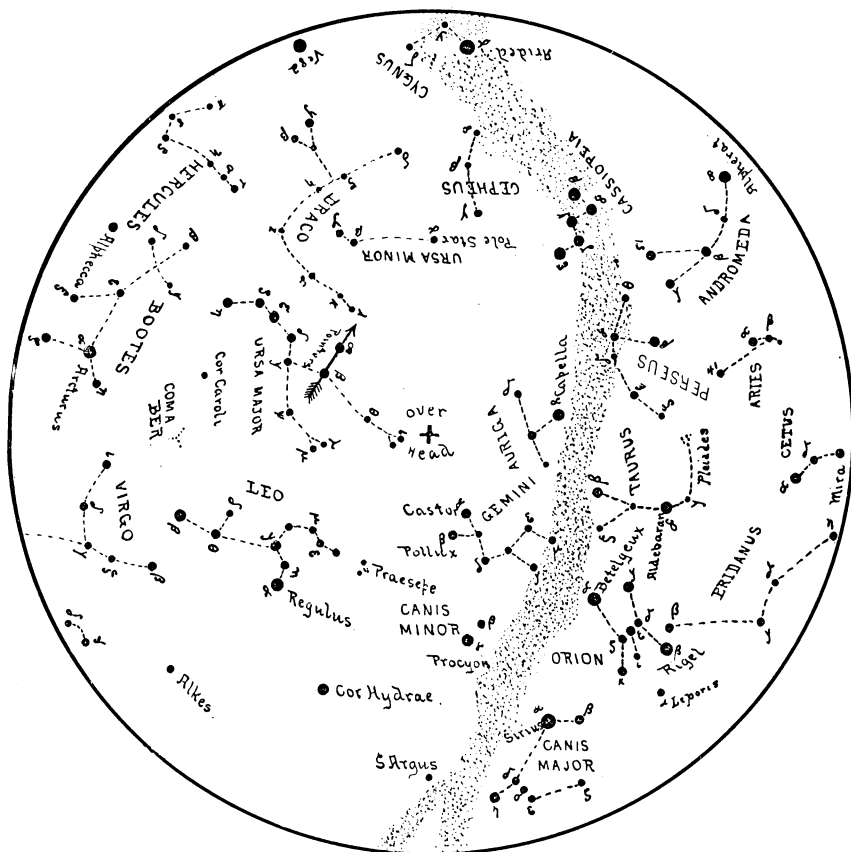
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### MARCH.

The Sun reaches the vernal equinox and crosses the equator from south to north on the morning of March 20th, at 6 o'clock, P. S. T.

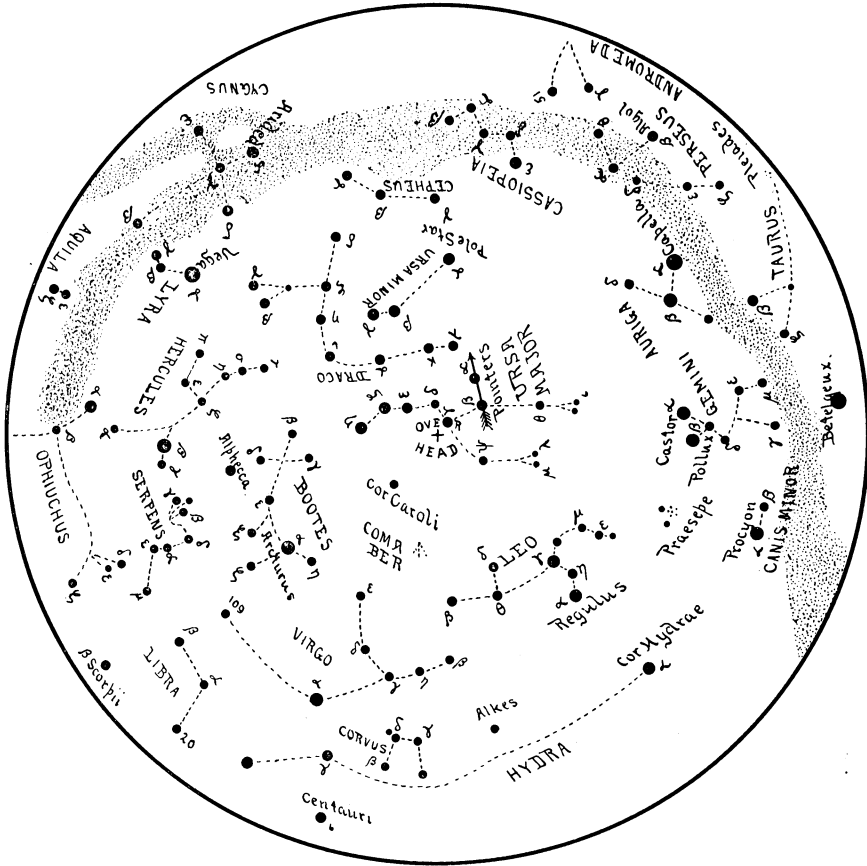
*Mercury* is too near the Sun to be easily seen until near the close of the month. It is a morning star until March 16th, when it passes superior conjunction and becomes an evening star. It moves rapidly away from the Sun, and by the end of the month sets about an hour and a quarter after sunset. It is quite near *Venus* near the close of the month, and passes that planet about two diameters of the Moon to the north on March 26th. The two planets will not be far apart during the last ten days of the month.

## MAP II



The sky on January 20, at 12 o'clock.  
 February 4, at 11 o'clock.  
 February 19, at 10 o'clock.  
 March 6, at 9 o'clock.  
 March 21, at 8 o'clock.

# MAP III



The sky on March 21, at 12 o'clock.

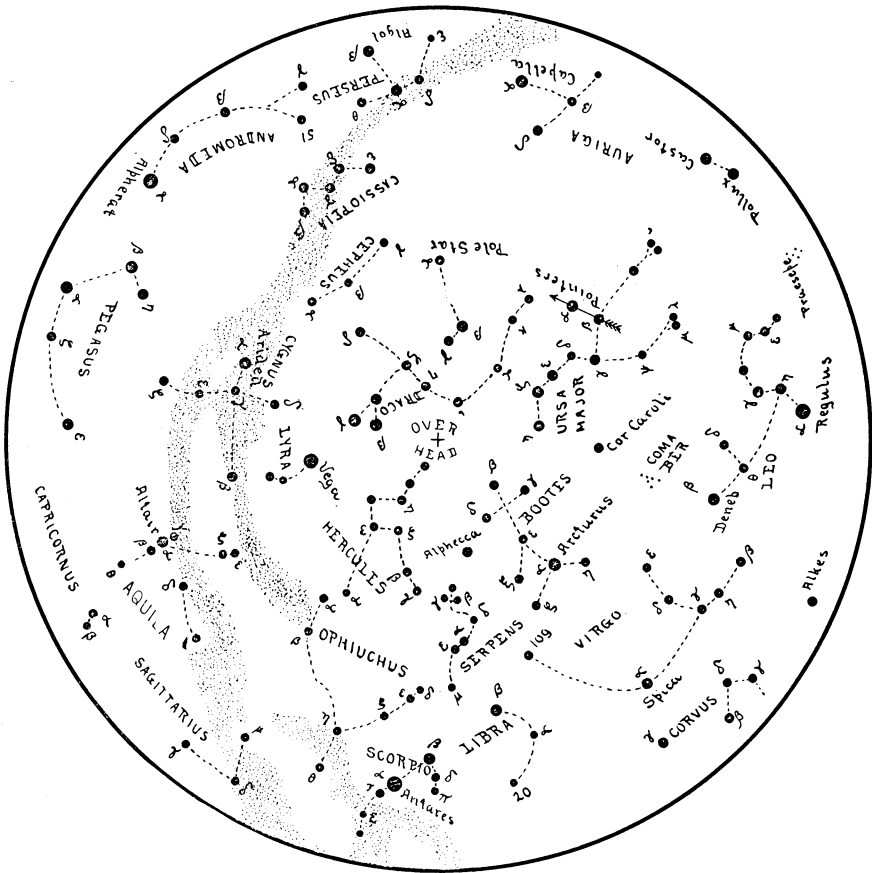
April 5, at 11 o'clock.

April 20, at 10 o'clock.

May 5, at 9 o'clock.

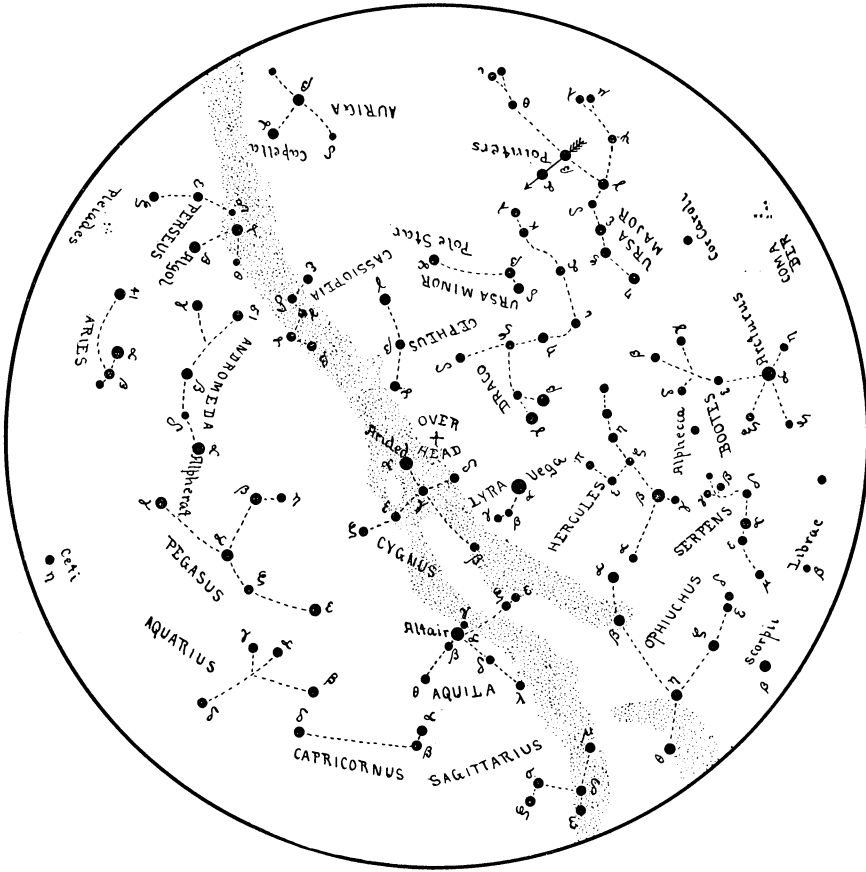
May 21, at 8 o'clock.

# MAP TV



The sky on May 21, at 12 o'clock.  
 June 5, at 11 o'clock.  
 June 21, at 10 o'clock.  
 July 7, at 9 o'clock.  
 July 22, at 8 o'clock.

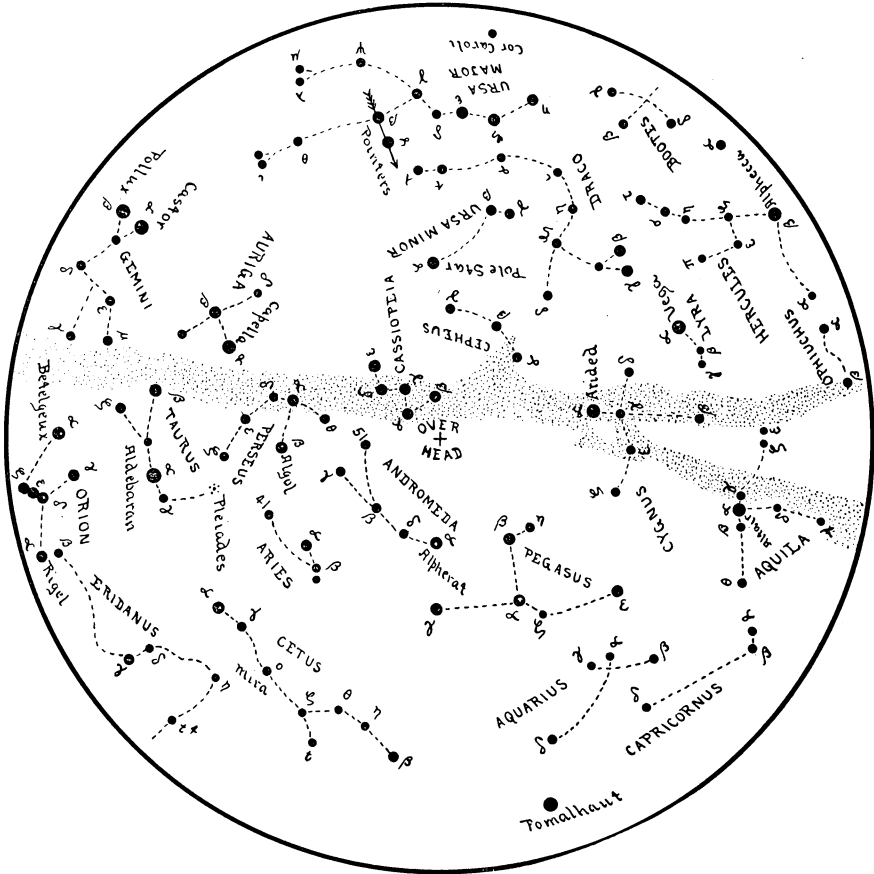
MAP V



The sky on July 22, at 12 o'clock.  
 August 7, at 11 o'clock.  
 August 23, at 10 o'clock.  
 September 8, at 9 o'clock.  
 September 23, at 8 o'clock.



# MAP VI



The sky on September 23, at 12 o'clock.

October 8, at 11 o'clock.

October 23, at 10 o'clock.

November 7, at 9 o'clock.

November 22, at 8 o'clock.